



U.S. Department of the Interior • Bureau of Mines

MINERAL INDUSTRY SURVEYS

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Cadmium, Quarterly

CADMIUM IN THE FIRST QUARTER 1993

Domestic production of cadmium metal in the first quarter of 1993 was 25% lower than that of the preceding quarter, according to the U.S. Bureau of Mines. An 8% cutback in the production of cadmium sulfide was offset by increased production of other cadmium compounds. Cumulative imports of cadmium metal through February were 16% greater than those for the corresponding period of 1992.

Prices

Cadmium prices continued to weaken. The New York dealer price for metal, published by *Metals Week* for the week of January 4-8, ranged from 60 to 70 cents per pound, significantly less than the 1992 average of 91 cents. By the end of the first quarter, the quotation had fallen to 50-60 cents per pound. For the week ending August 6, the price was 40-50 cents.

Disposals from the National Defense Stockpile

On March 22, 1993, the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) began selling off all 2,871 metric tons (mt) of cadmium metal in the National Defense Stockpile. The one bid received that day -- 13 cents per pound for 28,303 pounds (12.8 mt) of metal-- was rejected. At the next bid offering on April 12, a lone bid of 15 cents was received from Talco Metals of Philadelphia, PA. Because Talco was the sole bidder, DLA was able to negotiate a price of 18 cents with

the Pennsylvania company. Talco will supply the material to its plating consumers.

Two bids were accepted from Minor Metals, Inc. in June -- one on the 14th and one on the 28th. The two bids were identical. In each case, Minor Metals acquired 30,000 pounds (13.6 mt) of metal for 24 cents per pound. DLA will continue to offer about 30,000 pounds of cadmium twice a month for the rest of fiscal year 1993 and is authorized to reject bids it feels are too low in comparison to market prices.

Current Publications of Interest

Cadmium 92, the edited proceedings of the Seventh International Cadmium Conference, is now available for sale through The Cadmium Council. The conference, held in New Orleans, April 6-8, 1992, was sponsored jointly by The Council, The Cadmium Association of London, and the International Lead Zinc Research Organization. The publication contains the full texts of 39 papers presented at the conference plus edited reports of the discussion sessions. A number of speakers discussed ways of minimizing cadmium losses to the environment. Inquiries should be sent to The Cadmium Council, 12110 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 110, Reston, VA 22090. Tel: (703) 709-1400.

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TABLE 1
SALIENT CADMIUM STATISTICS

(Metric tons, cadmium content)

	1992 Final	1992 Fourth quarter	1993 First quarter
Stocks of metal beginning of period:			
Metal producers - - - - -	624	322	399
Compound producers - - - - -	91	111	166
Distributors - - - - -	1/10	W	W
Production (primary and secondary):2/			
Metal - - - - -	1,620	346	258
Sulfide3/ - - - - -	270	51	47
Other compounds4/ - - - - -	1,073	188	191
Shipments:5/			
Metal (includes secondary) - - - - -	2,075	16	105
Compounds - - - - -	1,323	257	254
Imports (general):			
Metal - - - - -	6/1,958	411	NA
Exports - - - - -	6/178	21	NA
Stocks of metal end of period:			
Metal producers - - - - -	422	399	285
Compound producers - - - - -	203	166	98
Distributors - - - - -	15	W	W

NA Not available. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; included in "Compound producers."

1/Includes the largest dealers and producers of plating salts as well as dealers reporting on an annual basis only.

2/Includes equivalent metal content of cadmium sponge used directly in production of compounds.

3/Includes cadmium lithopone and cadmium sulfoselenide.

4/Includes plating salts and oxide.

5/Shipments include internal plant consumption.

6/Final reported data.

Fig. 1. - U.S. cadmium production and stocks
at end of period1/
(Metric tons)

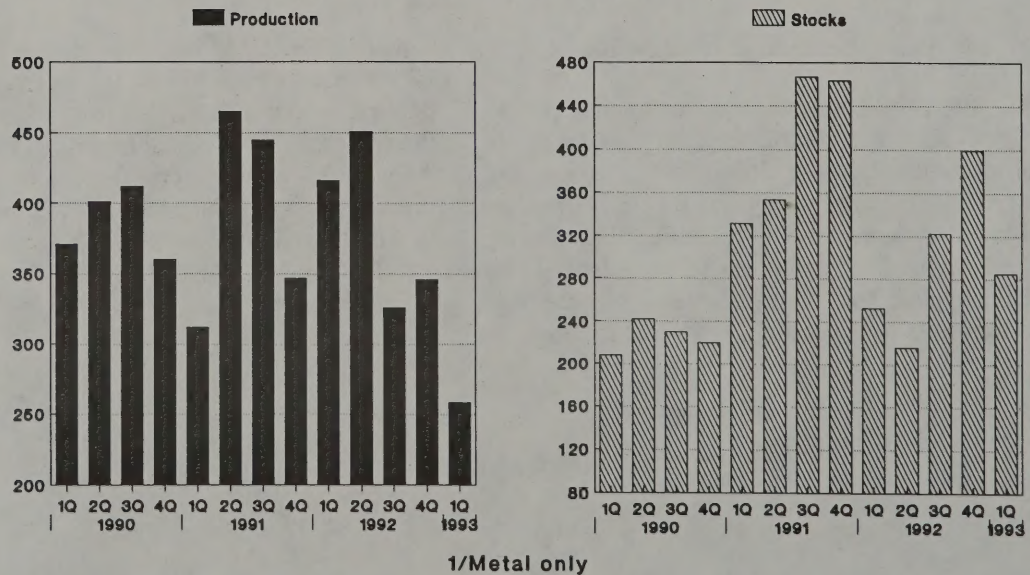


TABLE 2
U.S. IMPORTS OF CADMIUM METAL, BY COUNTRY

(Metric tons)

Country	1992		1993 1/		
	Final	Fourth quarter	January	February	Jan.-Feb. total
Australia	151	--	--	--	--
Belgium	338	80	--	50	50
Bulgaria	127	19	--	--	--
Canada	558	112	20	45	65
China	(2/)	--	--	--	--
Finland	22	--	--	--	--
France	177	1	--	--	--
Germany	162	90	--	--	--
Italy	24	--	--	--	--
Japan	(2/)	--	--	--	--
Mexico	224	108	18	92	110
Netherlands	57	--	--	--	--
Norway	48	--	--	20	20
Spain	69	--	--	--	--
Total3/-	1,958	411	38	207	245

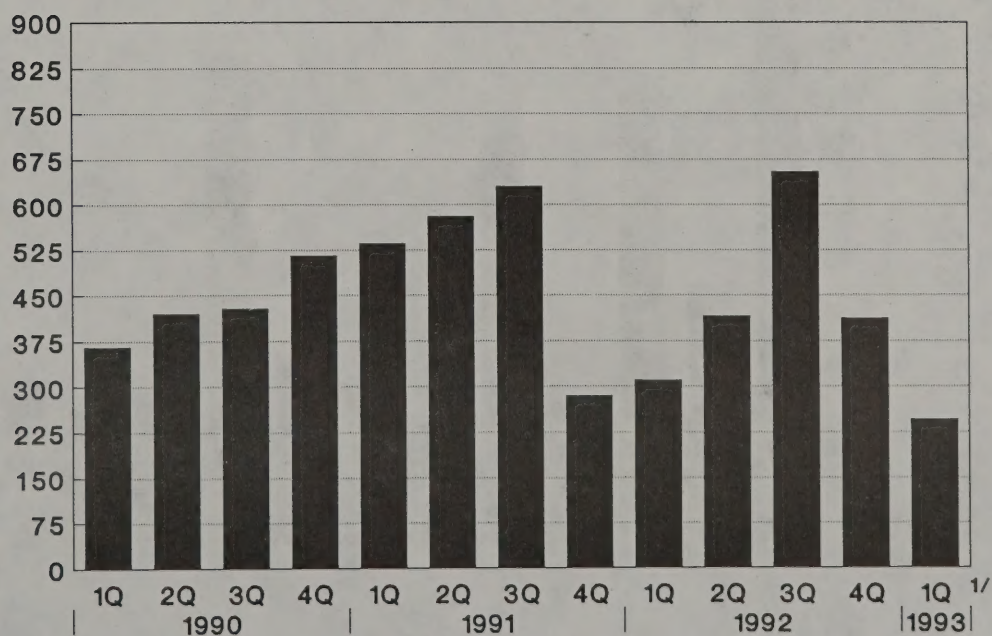
1/March data not available at time of publication.

2/Less than 1/2 unit.

3/Data may not add to totals shown because of independent rounding.

Source: Bureau of the Census.

Fig. 2. - Cadmium imports
(Metric tons)



1/January and February only.

TABLE 3
U.S. EXPORTS OF CADMIUM METAL, BY COUNTRY

(Metric tons)

Country	1992		1993 1/		
	Final	Fourth quarter	January	February	Jan.-Feb. total
Belgium - - - - -	19	19	--	--	--
Canada - - - - -	5	2	--	--	--
China - - - - -	(2/)	--	--	--	--
France - - - - -	2	--	--	--	--
Germany - - - - -	14	--	--	--	--
Greece - - - - -	2	--	--	--	--
Japan - - - - -	136	--	--	--	--
Thailand - - - - -	1	--	--	--	--
United Kingdom - - - - -	--	--	4	--	4
Total - - - - -	3/178	21	4	--	4

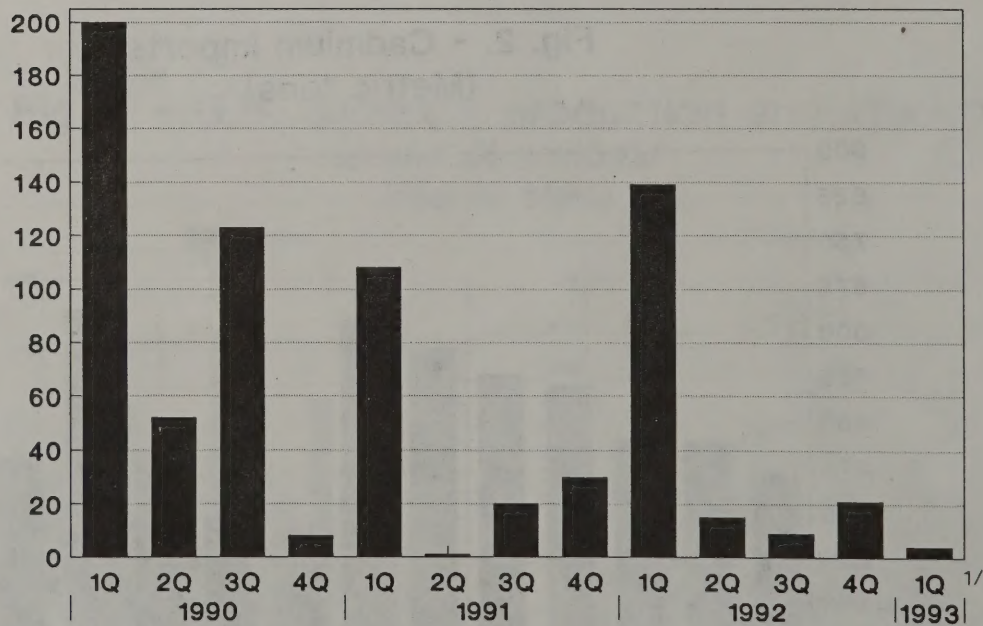
1/March data not available at time of publication.

2/Less than 1/2 unit.

3/Data do not add to total shown because of independent rounding.

Source: Bureau of the Census.

Fig. 3. - Cadmium exports
(Metric tons)



1/January and February only.